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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/799,694	03/15/2004	Masaki Murakata	042163	8650
38834	7590	06/24/2005	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			HO, BINH VAN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2821	

DATE MAILED: 06/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/799,694	Applicant(s) MURAKATA ET AL.	
	Examiner Binh V. Ho	Art Unit 2821	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/15/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1 and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, lines 14-15; "the elements is" should be changed to --the elements are--.

In claim 8, line 3, "a light emitting threshold voltage" should be changed to --the light emitting threshold voltage-- since the voltage has been recited in line 5 of claim 7.

In claim 8, line 5; "a reverse-bias-voltage" should be changed to --the reverse-bias-voltage--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1 – 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, the term "a reverse bias voltage" in line 6, would appear to contradict the teaching of line 17-18, page 8 of the specification. In fact, page 8 clearly states that the "reverse bias voltage" is the same as the "reverse direction

voltage” as it is being used interchangeably. It is suggested that the “reverse direction voltage” be changed to the “reverse bias voltage” for consistency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1 to 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshida (6,351,076).

(Claim 1)

Yoshida teaches, in Figure 13, a drive device for a light-emitting display panel (11) having a configuration in which, under a state in which light-emitting elements ($E_{m,1}$, $E_{m,2}$... $E_{m,n}$) are connected to intersections of a plurality of data lines (A_1 , A_2 , ... A_m) and a plurality of scanning lines (B_1 , B_2 , ... B_m), sequential scanning is executed by connection of the scanning lines (B_1 , B_2 , ... B_m) to a scanning reference potential point (Ground) and a reverse bias voltage (V_{cc}) for the light-emitting elements ($E_{m,1}$, $E_{m,2}$... $E_{m,n}$) is supplied to scanning lines (B_1 , B_2 , ... B_m) which are not connected to the scanning reference potential point (Ground) to be in a non-scanning state, wherein an operation during which a forward voltage (V_L) is applied to all the light-emitting elements ($E_{m,1}$, $E_{m,2}$... $E_{m,n}$)

at least one time and an operation during which a reverse direction voltage (V_{cc}) is applied to all the light-emitting elements ($E_{m,1}, E_{m,2} \dots E_{m,n}$) at least one time are executed in a predetermined period, whether light-emitting of the elements ($E_{m,1}, E_{m,2} \dots E_{m,n}$) are executed or not in the period.

(Claim 2)

Yoshida teaches the predetermined period is one scanning period, and an operation during which a reverse direction voltage (V_{cc}) being applied to light-emitting elements ($E_{m,1}, E_{m,2} \dots E_{m,n}$) connected to selected scanning lines ($B_1, B_2, \dots B_{mn}$) and an operation during which a forward voltage (V_L), which does not contribute to light emitting, is applied to data lines ($A_1, A_2, \dots A_m$) under control for non light-emitting are executed in the one scanning period.

(Claim 3)

Yoshida teaches the predetermined period being one frame period, a dummy scanning mode (col.5, line 47 +) is set in the one frame period, and an operation during which a reverse direction voltage (V_{cc}) is applied to all light-emitting elements ($E_{m,1}, E_{m,2} \dots E_{m,n}$) and an operation during which a forward voltage (V_L), which does not contribute to light emitting, is applied to all light-

emitting elements ($E_{m.1}$, $E_{m.2}$... $E_{m.n}$) are executed during the dummy scanning mode (col.5, line 47 +).

(Claim 4)

Yoshida teaches the predetermined period being a period longer than one frame, a dummy scanning mode (col.5, line 47 +) is set in the period, and an operation during which a reverse direction voltage (V_{cc}) is applied to all light-emitting elements ($E_{m.1}$, $E_{m.2}$... $E_{m.n}$) and an operation during which a forward voltage (V_L), which does not contribute to light emitting, is applied to all light emitting elements ($E_{m.1}$, $E_{m.2}$... $E_{m.n}$) are executed during the dummy scanning mode (col.5, line 47 +).

(Claim 5)

Yoshida teaches the forward voltage which does not contribute to light emitting is a forward voltage (V_L) equal to or smaller than a light-emitting threshold voltage (col. 5, line 34 +) of a light-emitting element ($E_{m.n}$).

(Claim 6)

Yoshida teaches the forward voltage (V_L) which does not contribute to light emitting is applied so that currents for lighting driving of light-emitting elements ($E_{m.1}$, $E_{m.2}$... $E_{m.n}$) from a driving power supply are supplied in a short time (note that the word "short" is merely a relative word).

(Claim 7)

Yoshida teaches the forward voltage (V_L) which does not contribute to light-emitting is applied so that a voltage from a voltage source having equal to or larger than a light-emitting threshold voltage (col. 5, line 34 +) of a light-emitting element ($E_{m.1}$, $E_{m.2}$... $E_{m.n}$) are supplied in a short time.

(Claim 8)

Yoshida teaches the voltage source having equal to or larger than the light-emitting threshold voltage of a light-emitting element is the reverse-bias-voltage (col.12, line 44) source by which the reverse bias voltage (col.12, line 44) is supplied to light-emitting elements ($E_{m.1}$, $E_{m.2}$... $E_{m.n}$) in a non-scanning state.

(Claims 9 to 13)

Yoshida teaches the light-emitting element ($E_{m,n}$) comprising an organic EL element using an organic compound for a light-emitting layer (Col.1, line 28 +).

Inquiry

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh V. Ho whose telephone number is 571 272 8583. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don K. Wong can be reached on 571 272 1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2821

Binh V Ho
Examiner
Art Unit 2821

Binh Van Ho
06/15/2005


Don Wong
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800